Name Case Study: Food Labels and Origin of Food

The Product: Cost of Product (include size)

Location of Manufacture: Why do you purchase this item?

List of ingredients:

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1. Choose THREE of the above list of “multi-syllabic” ingredients. ON THE BACK OF THIS PAPER, discuss the major source of production, where these ingredients are primarily manufactured, why they are included, and any health issues that may develop due to these products. (Please note, the “most exciting” ingredients will be found towards the end of your list).

2. Does the package mention whether the product is “organic,” “non-GMO,” other? Did/Would this influence your decision to purchase this product? Why or why not?

3. How far (in miles) did your product travel to make it to Downingtown Area 19341? Assuming the modern tractor-trailer averages 6.5 miles per gallon of fuel, how many gallons of gasoline did it take for this product to be delivered to “your store?” Based on today’s current gas price, how much money did your product “pay” for this trip?

4. Many environmentalists argue that the purchase price of a product should account for these hidden costs to reduce or help rectify the environmental and health damage that stems from manufacturing and production. In addition to the purchase price of this product, what are three external costs associated with this product? How would you determine the amount of these hidden costs, and the estimate to pass onto the consumer as a result of the damages associated with this “food”? What may eventually happen with some of these products? Does the “invisible hand” of capitalism help solve all environmental and health issues? In addition to internalizing externalities, what is another action that can be taken to help minimize our footprint in regards to food selection, or how we receive this food?